

// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg, recessed from March 16, was held on the 23rd day of March, 2004, at 1:00 P.M., in the Second Floor Training Room, City Hall, Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session regarding several items. The following Members were present:

Present: Adams, Barksdale, Dodson, Foster, Garber, Seiffert, Hutcherson 7

Absent: 0

// City Manager Kimball Payne asked City Council to provide direction regarding the tax rates to advertise in the legal notice for the FY2005 Budget public hearing. After discussion, City Council agreed to include in the legal notice the City Manager's proposed tax increases with the exception of the personal property tax. City Council requested that the personal property tax rate be advertised at \$4.00 instead of \$3.50.

// City Manager Kimball Payne advised that an application had been received asking that the new fountain at the foot of Ninth Street be named "The Langley Fountain" to honor Bruton Langley, the major benefactor for the project. Mr. Payne went on to say that City staff is recommending that the fountain be named "The James River Fountain" to recognize all contributors to the project. Following discussion, and on motion of Vice Mayor Dodson, seconded by Council Member Foster, Council by the following recorded vote agreed that the fountain at the foot of Ninth Street be named "The Langley Fountain":

Ayes: Adams, Barksdale, Dodson, Foster, Garber, Seiffert, Hutcherson 7

Noes: 0

// Administrative and Grants Coordinator Melva Walker advised that the revised worksheets showing the proposed funding allocations for FY2005 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Program projects reflect the final allocation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ms. Walker further advised that due to the withdrawal of the funding request by the Alliance for Families and Children, the \$18,500 that the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) had recommended for the Ways to Work Program has been redistributed to the Public Service projects. Council Member Adams stated that at one time the bulk of these funds were primarily used for "hard" or capital goods rather than personnel costs and asked that the Committee give some thought next year to allocating more funding for "hard" or capital goods. Council Member Foster pointed out that these programs benefit the quality of life in our City and that some of these organizations use CDBG funds as "seed" money to seek grant funding. Ms. Walker stated that during next year's process she would inform the Committee of the above request. Following discussion, City Council reached consensus to support the revised recommendations of the CDAC regarding funding allocations for FY2005 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Program projects.

// Information Technology Director Mike Goetz provided an overview regarding the City's Information Technology Strategic Plan. Following discussion, staff agreed to provide City Council with an update in six months.

// Utilities Director Dan Sneed along with Assistant Director of Utilities Tim Mitchell presented information regarding the financial impact the 2004 James River Tributary Strategy would have on the City, i.e., a \$60

million upgrade to the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in addition to in excess of \$750,000 per year in additional operating expenses. Mr. Mitchell asked that City Council consider adopting a resolution requesting the Commonwealth to defer adoption of the draft 2004 James River Tributary Strategy. Following discussion, and on motion of Council Member Adams, seconded by Vice Mayor Dodson, Council by the following recorded vote adopted Resolution #R-04-034, as presented, requesting that the Commonwealth of Virginia defer adoption of the draft 2004 James River Tributary Strategy:

Ayes: Adams, Barksdale, Dodson, Foster, Garber, Seiffert, Hutcherson 7

Noes: 0

// City Council again considered a proposed amendment to the City Code to require adequate receptacles for waste generated at residential construction sites. Following discussion, City Council asked that the ordinance be further revised to give the Building Commissioner the authority to stop work on a site where trash and litter is not properly handled. City Council also asked that this item be scheduled for public hearing at the June 8 City Council meeting. Council Member Barksdale inquired if reflectors could be required for dumpsters that have to be placed in public rights-of-way to alert drivers at night. City Attorney Walter Erwin stated that the City could require reflectors for those receptacles.

// During roll call, Council Member Barksdale expressed concern regarding recent comments made against the Planning Commission and the Director of Community Planning, and asked that City Council stand behind these individuals in that they were only looking to make the City a better place to live. Council Member Seiffert invited City Council to a June 20 ceremony to rededicate the General Early Monument, mentioned an award the Police Department will be receiving regarding the cleanup of 11<sup>th</sup> & Taylor Streets and applauded the Code Enforcement Task Force's contribution to this project, and urged everyone to go by the City Cemetery to view the goats that were recently acquired to clear a lot next to the cemetery. Vice Mayor Dodson stated that it was his understanding that the public would be allowed to provide comments at the March 31 work session regarding proposed changes to the sign ordinance. Other Council Members stated that it was their understanding that the work session was for City Council to become familiar with and ask questions regarding the proposed changes and that the public would have a chance to make comments at a public hearing tentatively scheduled for the May 11 meeting. Council also asked that all written comments received by staff be forwarded to them prior to the work session, and that the sign advisory committee be invited to the March 31 work session as a resource to respond to questions.

// City Council held a joint session with the School Board regarding the Schools FY 2005 Budget proposal. School Board Chair Lyle Schweitzer explained that School Board members and staff were available to answer questions regarding the budget proposal. Discussion focused on what the impact would be on the Schools in light of not knowing the amount of funding to be received from the State, in addition to the City Manager's proposed reduction to the Schools request.

// The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.